Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets ~~in a computer system,~~ comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:

communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to an operating system ~~level,~~ a policy for manipulating packets; and

at the operating system ~~level~~, modifying the packets based on the policy.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the policy comprises: ~~the operating system level is below the IP stack~~

at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the application, storing the policy in a data structure.

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of users interested in receiving the packet; and

the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the interested users based on the policy.

5. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending packets ~~in a computer system~~, comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:
communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to hardware, a policy for manipulating packets; and
in the hardware, modifying the packets based on the policy.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 5, wherein the hardware is a router.

7. (Currently amended) A machine-implemented method for sending messages, comprising the ~~computer-implemented~~ steps of:
creating an aggregate message from individual messages that are to be sent using an operating system service;
transmitting the aggregate message to an operating system ~~level~~ with a system call;
within the operating system ~~level~~, dividing the aggregate message back into individual messages; and
transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service.

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the individual messages are packets.

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the aggregate message includes a policy.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes video-to-message information.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes a time stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual messages should be transmitted.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the policy includes time stamps for transmitting the individual messages according to the time stamps associated with the individual messages.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are sequence numbers.

15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein the time stamps are relative virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be transmitted.

16. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for sending packets ~~in a computer system~~, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of~~, the computer-readable medium bearing instructions for performing the steps of~~:

communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to an operating system ~~level~~, a policy for manipulating packets; and

at the operating system ~~level~~, modifying the packets based on the policy.

17. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,

wherein the step of communicating the policy comprises: ~~the operating system level is below the IP stack~~

at the operating system, in response to receiving the policy from the application, storing the policy in a data structure.

18. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,

wherein the policy indicates destinations to which certain messages should be redirected.

19. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein:

the step of modifying the packets includes receiving a packet, replicating the packet based on the policy to create a plurality of replicated packets for a plurality of users interested in receiving the packet; and

the method further comprises the step of transmitting the replicated packets to the interested users based on the policy.

20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for sending packets ~~in a computer system~~, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of~~, the computer-readable medium bearing instructions for performing the steps of~~:

communicating, from an application ~~a user level~~ to hardware, a policy for manipulating packets; and

in the hardware, modifying the packets based on the policy.

21. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the hardware is a router.

22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for sending messages ~~in a computer system~~, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of~~, the computer-readable medium bearing instructions for performing the steps of~~:

creating an aggregate message from individual messages that are to be sent using an operating system service;

transmitting the aggregate message to an operating system ~~level~~ with a system call;

within the operating system ~~level~~, dividing the aggregate message back into individual messages; and

transmitting the individual messages using the operating system service.

23. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the individual messages are packets.

24. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, wherein the aggregate message includes a policy.

25. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 23, wherein the policy indicates destinations to which messages should be redirected.

26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy includes video-to-message information.

27. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy includes a time stamp that is a range of time indicating when the individual messages should be transmitted.

28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 24, wherein the policy includes time stamps for transmitting the individual messages according to the time stamps associated with the individual messages.

29. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time stamps are sequence numbers.

30. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the time stamps are relative virtual time delays with respect to the first message to be transmitted.

31. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the policy is a first policy, wherein the packets are a first set of packets, and the method further comprises the steps of:

communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for manipulating packets; and

at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets based on the first policy.

32. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the policy is a first policy, wherein the packets are a first set of packets, and wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more processors further causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

communicating, from the application to the operating system, a second policy for manipulating packets; and

at the operating system, modifying a second set of packets based on the second policy while the operating system is still configured to modify the first set of packets based on the first policy.